### The Donunal and Courier

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At St. Louis the other day Miss Lulu Silence became Mrs. John W. Gaab, and some say there will be no more Silence.

It is recorded that G. W. Watson, of Kingsley, Kansas, has been successful with a new means of killing prairie dogs. He forces steam from a traction engine into the holes of the dogs and they are suffocated almost instant-

Do they have a "system" in Calcutta? It is stated by an Indian paper that many Calcutta policemen have attained to position of such affluence that they own private carriages and even a racehorse or two, while they are able to bet in sums that astonish the average citizen.

The New York health department is instituting a crusade against the popular "headache cures." Doctors have found that while some of these remedies are harmless and even beneficial, others are worthless and even dangerous. Many of them contain acentanelid, a drug that is low priced, but so potent in its action on the heart that a five grain dose might be dangerouseven fatal-to a person affected with heart trouble. It is said that the headache cure habit is especially prevalent among working girls and women.

A number of Indianapolis grocers who have for years conducted a meat business have discontinued the sale of beef and beef products and notified their customers that they will not resume the trade until there is a substantial reduction in prices. Several butcher shops not connected with grocers have also closed and have refused to buy from the packers, giving as a reason that they are losing money because of high prices. A movement has been started among the butchers to buy their own cattle on the hoof and do their own slaughtering.

Not long ago a convict in a French penal colony who was serving a life sentence there desired to marry one of the women convicts and made application to the authorities for the necessary permission. The governor of the colproceeded to cross-examine the pris-"Have you any document to show that she is dead? "Then I must decline to marry that your wife is dead." There was a nause and the bride prospective looked at the would-be groom. Finally he said: "I can prove that my former wife is dead." "How will you do so?" "I was sent here for killing her." The bride accepted him notwithstanding.

One of the most peculiar ancestral portraits ever painted is in the possession of one of the heirs of the last Duc de Laval-Montmorency, of France, who died in 1851. The picture dates from the ancestor of the Montmorencys looking from a window of his palace mon e broad sheet of water, upon which floats Noah's ark. By the open door stands a servant in the Montmorency livery, whose gesture serves to announce that M. Noah begs to present his respects to M. le Duc. This picture was rainted by the order of a Montmorency, to whom the well-attested age of his illustrious family did not seem sufficient. The founder of the house, according to tradition, lived in the third century, was converted to Christianity by St. Dionysius, and died a martyr.

Representative Charles Thompson of the Tuskegee (Alabama) district will take twenty leading Republican contressmen on a week's visit to his plantation home in Macon county, Alabama, leaving Washington May 20. They will be shown the southern negro in his highest type, represented by the stu dents of Booker Washington's school and also in his lowest type, as represented by the cotton-field hands. the party will be Senator Frye of Maine, Representatives Crumpacker of Indiana, Littlefield of Maine, Jenkins of Wisconsin, Ketcham of New York, Southard of Ohio, Conner of Iowa Smith of Iowa, Leavison of Iowa, Barney of Wisconsin, Brown of Wisconsin, Roberts of Massachusetts. Gillett of Massachusetts, and others. Speaker Henderson has been invited, and will go depots at Kronstadt, before they leave if he can leave congress.

Some of the wise men say that women

ave no sense of humor, but there are women in San Francisco who think differently. These women have organized club whose purpose is to cheer and imuse. They are going to laugh as much as they consistently can. The story, the joke and the conundrum will not be considered undignified. The first meeting of the club has been held and It was described as "a hilarious suc cess." To keep up the interest prizes are offered for the most amusing and laugh-creating originality, and penaltles for those who originate gross stories or try to pass off cribbed jokes as original.

This club has applied for admission to the Federation of Women's Clubs to be held in Los Angeles next month, and It ought to be abundantly admitted. A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men and it ought to be elished by the wisest women too.

### NOT A GOOD INVESTMENT.

Some of the economical people of Missouri don't think that Charles May who moved into their State from Kansas about the first of the year 1896, has proved a good investment. He has been twice condemned to die for murder, and is now confined in the Buchanan county jail at St. Joseph awaiting a second trial for the murder of Robert Martin near DeKalb in December, 1900. The tragedy of Sugar Creek church, of February 9, 1896, which resulted in the death of William 1. Burdette, of that vicinity, led to two trials. In the first Charles May was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged. The secand trial resulted in his conviction for assault, with a term of two years in the penitentlary. The cost of these trials was \$2,275.55, including May's board while in iail. The trial which resulted in his conviction a year ago cost \$583.20. This does not include board which, at forty cents a day since his incarceration, amounts to \$200. If to these sums is added \$600, the probable cost of the second trial for the murder of Robert Martin, which will be held at the June term of the criminal court, and an allowance made for the cost of appeals to the Supreme court, it is figured that this man has cost the State in the neighborhood of \$4,000 since establishing his residence in Missouri,

Of course May Isn't worth \$4,000, but Missouri has got off cheapty compared with what similar citizens have cost ome States. Murder trials must be cheap in Missouri if they can have them for about \$1,000 apiece. New York has murder trials which cost a quarter of a

France's experience with her Congo clony isn't encouraging to countries which have tropical colonies. The French tired of voting large sums for Times. the preservation of order in the French Congo, and so the Chamber was glad to adopt the Belgian system of concessions as the cheapest way out of the difficulty. No sooner were the concessionaries well established than the government began to reduce the number of militia, claiming that the ownsult is that the natives have become ex- deflation of the latter. asperated at the methods employed to are their rights. At first there were only little outbreaks here and there, but allow any escape of air to occur. recently all the stations along the Sangha river have been looted and all the officials, both European and native, of the concessionaries murdered. This great territory of France in Africa covers an area of some 450,000 square miles or more than twice the area of France itself, while it has a native population of some 10,000,000 or 12,000,000. It has never been profitable to France, and there is to this time need of a grant from the coffers of the republic to make up yearly deficits. When practically the whole French Congo was turned over to the trading companies which were granted the concessions it was thought that there would be some relief from this constant drain, but under the rule of the concessionaries conditions have become worse than they

It is to be hoped that our Philippines will turn out better than the French Congo has. Probably they will, because we are much smarter than the French

# IXTHAVAGANT RUSSIANS.

Some of the Russians don't stem to be any sharper than some other folks are A Russian Admiralty order remarks that the commanders of vessels of the Pacific squadron are accustomed to purchase at exceedingly high prices in-Japanese ports large quantities of ma-Admiralty at Viadivostok and Port Arthur. It instances the case of a commander who last year paid 18 rubles a pood for oil at Negasaki at a time when for the very same quality of oil the Volunteer fleet was only paying 4 rubles. 80 copecks, and when oil could be obtained from the depots at the Russian ports for 1 ruble 65 copecks and 2 rubles 35 copecks a pood. The same officer also bought large quantities of other provisions at extravagant prices. The commanders, moreover, frequently buy stores at the ports of call, especially in great success with it in the Senate end the Mediterranean, instead of from the

purchases is frequently many times greater than their requirements. The Admiralty, therefore, forbids the com-Vladivostok and Port Arthur, Materials not kept in stock at those ports may manders with the preliminary consent of the Admiral of their squadron. Whenever possible a sufficient supply last for the whole of the voyage.

It is evident on the face of it that a man who would pay too much for a pood ought to be restrained.

# The Ballad of the Tramp.

The young wife had a heart of gold, And sympathy to burn. So when a tramp appeared one day, Quick was she to discern that he was hungry, and to hetp The poor man she did yearn.

Come in," said she: "come in and get Some pies and cake and bread, ust like your mother used to make"— "Thank you," the hobo said, ie are what she had cooked, and saw With pleasure she blushed red.

But when he started to arise

His face with wee turned blue;
He seemed to sag as he walked off.

"Dear lady, you spoke true"
(He gasped). "My mother couldn't cook;
I wonder how you knew?"

— Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

### APPARENT.

Getting Back.-Customer to palmist-Five dollars fee? Er-would you have any objection to waiting until I get some of the money you say is coming to me?—Brooklyn Life.

Wife-There's something queer about that woman who has just moved next Husband-What's the matter? Minds

her own business, eh?-Philadelphia "How is it you're late this morning?"

quired the employer. "I sprained my ankle on the way to answered the employe. "Huh! that's a lame excuse."-New-

Exhausted Capital -- Jane-Judy had go back to the rest cure. Kate-What for?

Jane-Oh, she got a collapse going ound telling everybody how much good it did her.-Detroit Free Press. "I don't think I will be able to appear n to-day's performance," said the com-

"What's the matter?" asked the business man "Oh, I don't know; I feel funny."

Yonkers Statesman. A Cultivated Taste. - Boggs-So you're poet, eh? D'ye know I'm gettin' so I ake quite an interest in poetry.

The poet-Indeed! Boggs-Yes, there ain't nothin' I enoy more than readin' them advertise ments in the street cars.-Philadelphia

An Englishman went into a restau in a New England town and was served for his first course with a dilcacy unknown to him. So he asked the waiter what it was, and the waiter re

"It's bean soup, sir." Whereupon the Englishman, in high indignation, responded:

"I don't care what it's been: I want to know what it is!"-Philadelphia

A NEW PNEUMATIC TIRE. According to the Velo, the cyclist's fondest wish is now fulfilled. The ideal non-puncturable tire has been discov-The inventor took an air cham ber of his devisng to the office of the newspaper, and there, in the presence astounded staff, planted nuedles, thoons, tin tacks, and two-inch nails into the own property. They did, and the re- tube without producing the slightest The invention is an application of the properties of compressed India rubber, which, when pierced, adheres so closely around the object causing the puncture as not to material has been used before. But the originality of the present invention appears to be the discovery of a pracitcal and simple method, first of attaching a band of the material in question to the chamber, and, secondly, of keeping it place and maintaining it in its state of compression. The air tube is constructed as follows: The tread is ompressed India rubber, tween strips of inextensible canvas side and out. It is claimed that danger of bursting is removed, whi punctures are rendered harmless. nail traversing the outer canvas. the compressed rubber, and the inner strip of the former material, cannot pierce a hole through which air can pass, as the India rubber expands and fills up the tion be poured into the place of the puncture the latter is still more securely sealed up. If all that is said of the invention be true there ought certainly to be jubilation among cyclists, as the new air chamber, while impervious to punctures and not liable to bursting, is stated to be as resilient and as fast as any ordinary tube.-From the London

MOMENTOUS HAND-SHAKING.

But for Its Effect, Says a Senator. New Mexico, Would Be a State.

Senator Patterson declares that hand-shake once prevented Statehood for New Mexico, and he does not hesiator Elkins administered the bandshake, and Senator Burrows of Michigan was the possessor of the hand shaken. Elkins is Senator from West Virginia and Burrows from Michigan, but at the time they were members of the House. It was in the Forty-third Congress. Elkins, though born in Ohlo, and is a graduate of the State univer-After he graduated he went to New Mexico to practice law, and it was not so very long before he was sent as the delegate in the Congress of the Ter ritory. Elkins was younger then than ne is now, but he showed signs of that talent for the management of men and affairs which has since made him wealthy man and one of the quiet though powerful influences in the Sen-He got up a statehood bill and had of the Capital. He, felt sure he would be able to get it approved in the House of Representatives. He might if Burfor the far East. The amount of their rows, who was then a member and sat

but a few seats away from the then delegate from New Mexico, had not made a speech. Burrows spoke on the Force bill. It was a notable effort and sanders to buy at foreign ports any the one which brought him into prominaterials which are kept in stock at nence, an effort which he has never again equalled and perhaps ever will The subject under discussion was the conduct of Southern elections. The day n future only be bought by the com- before Elkins had completed a canvas of the House for his Stateho d measure and found the democratic membe posed to help him outwith it. He had pledges from enough of them to assure s to be taken on board at Kronstadt to favorable action. He listened to the speech of Burrows. Burrows waxed eloquent. Elkins grew interested. But rows grew pathetic in the pictures be drew of negro oppresion in the South. THE GEORGE H. FORD CO. Elkins waxed sympathetic. leaned forward in his seat and devoured the Michigander with is eyes. Michigander, noting the attention of his colleague, addressed himself almost directly to Elkins in the brilliant, poetly percration. The chamber was slient, and as the last words of Burrows rang against its historic walls and Burrows had finished. Elkins jumped to his feet and, grasping Burrows' hand, shook it with enthusiasm, congratulating him on

his speech. Not a member but saw the action and realized its spontaneous sincerity. Not a democrat but saw the action and de ermined not to vote for Elkins' bill. He had hardly recovered from the spell of oratory and settled back in his seat be notes began arriving from the democratic side asking that he alter his canvas of the House and omit the writers from his poll of those favorable statehood.-From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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